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NIP
153429

Site Priority Status Recommendation

The author of this report recommends that the Sauget Sites Area #1 be assigned a high priority status rating. The sites should be advanced to formal scoring under the Hazard Ranking System (HRS) for addition to the National Priority List (NPL). The recommendation is a result of past sample results, as well as the findings of the CERCLA Screening Site Inspection (SSI) conducted at Sauget Sites Area #1.

In 1989, the Area #1 Sites were scored by Ecology and Environment, Incorporated (E&E) for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). Sites G, I/H, L together with Creek Segments A and B, scored a 34.75, however, the untimely submittal prevented the Sites from being listed due to the pending changes in the HRS.

The sample results and other findings of the Expanded Site Investigation Dead Creek Project Sites at Cahokia/Sauget, Illinois conducted by E&E for IEPA, contains pertinent data on the Area #1 Sites to facilitate HRS scoring. The results of the CERCLA SSI conducted by Illinois EPA, expanded on this data.

Documented groundwater contamination exists at the Area #1 Sites. The contaminants include volatile and semi-volatile organic hydrocarbons, pesticides and inorganic compounds. The groundwater contaminants show attribution to the sites via on-site soil sample results. There is proof that a small percent of the nearby population utilize shallow alluvial wells for drinking. During the June, 1991 CERCLA SSI for the nearby Sauget Sites Area #2, a non-community well serving over 25 people was sampled. PT's Show Club well, located approximately 1800 feet north of the Area #2 sites and 3400 feet northeast of the Area #1 sites, was found to contain ~~chloroform~~, a compound also detected in the Area's #1 and #2 soil and groundwater samples. The levels of chloroform were below USEPA's Maximum Contaminants Levels (MCL's) which figures for a level II contaminant in the HRS scoring process.

Surface water is subject to contamination from the Area #1 Sites. The sediment sample collect at the point where Dead Creek enters the Old Prairie Dupont Creek is evidence that surface waters have been impacted. Surface water targets include fishery use, wetlands, recreational areas and a Bald Eagle rook. The on-site wetlands in Creek Segment F, were found to be contaminated during the CERCLA SSI. Mississippi River fish sampling results from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and EPA have confirmed bioaccumulation of Area #1 and #2 contaminants in the tissue of fish caught adjacent to the Sites.

Soil exposure at the Area #1 sites presents a potential

human health risk. Site H and the unfenced segments of Dead Creek contain areas of surface soil contamination, and are accessible to whoever is ignorant to the conditions of these sites.

An air release has been documented at the Sites. PCB,s, 2-nitroaniline, pyrene, fluorene and naphthalene were detected in the air samples collected during E&E's investigation of the Dead Creek Project Sites. There are two schools and residential areas within a quarter mile of the Sites. There are also workers on-site and in areas between sources at the Sites.